

History 1970—Sect.43
Office Hours: Wed. 2-4

Prof. G. S. Wood
Spring 2008

The Practice of History

Books marked with an * are available at the bookstore. These, along with the other assigned pieces, are also on reserve in the Rockefeller Library.

- Jan. 29 Introduction: Why Study History?
- Feb. 5 History as Narrative
*E. H. Carr, What is History? ch. I.
Michael Walzer, "Puritanism as a Revolutionary Ideology,"
History and Theory, III (1963-64), 3-24.
R.G. Collingwood, The Idea of History, 1-13, 205-334.
Emery Battis, Saints and Sectaries, ch. 10.
- Feb. 12 History as Social Science
*Carr, What is History? ch. III.
Charles Tilly, "The Analysis of a Counter-Revolution,"
History and Theory, III (1963-64), 30-58.
Fernand Braudel, "History and the Social
Sciences," in Peter Burke, ed., Economy and
Society in Early Modern Europe, pp. 11-42;
or in Jacques Revel and Lynn Hunt, eds.,
Histories: French Constructions of the Past,
115-145.
Francois Furet, "Quantitative History," in Daedalus
(Winter, 1971), pp. 151-67, or in
Revel and Hunt, eds., Histories, 333-48.
Philip Greven, The Protestant Temperament, pp. 3-18.
- Feb. 19 Long weekend--no class
- Feb. 26 The Historical Process
*Carr, What is History? chs. II, IV
*Isaiah Berlin, The Hedgehog and the Fox.
Victor Hugo, "Waterloo," Les Miserables, Vol. II, Book I,
chs. 1-19.
Stendhal, The Charterhouse of Parma, chs. 3-4.
G.S. Wood, "Conspiracy and the Paranoid Style:
Causality and Deceit in the Eighteenth
Century," William and Mary Quarterly, 3d
Ser., 39 (1982), 403-41.
- Mar. 4 Historical Problems
Wallace Brown, The King's Friends, several chapters plus
the preface and the conclusion or until you
understand the scheme of the book.
George Sensabaugh, Milton in America, same as with Brown
book.
Jacob Price, "The Rise of Glasgow in the Chesapeake Tobacco
Trade, 1707-1775," William and Mary Quarterly, 3d
Series, XI (1954), 179-199

- Mar. 11 Causation: Ideas or Interests?
 Arthur M. Schlesinger, New Viewpoints in America History,
 ch. VII.
 Lewis Namier, "Human Nature in Politics," in Personalities
 and Powers.
 Clifford Geertz, Interpretation of Culture, chs. 1, 8.
 Marvin Harris, Cows, Pigs, Wars, and Witches, "Mother Cow,"
 pp.11-32.
 Quinton Skinner, "The Principles and Practices of
 Opposition: The Case of Bolingbroke versus Walpole,"
 in Historical Perspectives: Studies in English
 Thought and Society, ed., Neil McKendrick
 E.P. Thompson, Whigs and Hunters, pp. 258-269.
- Mar. 18 Micro-History: The Abandonment of National History?
 *Robert Darnton, The Great Cat Massacre, pp. 3-7, 75-104,
 257-63.
 James Clifford and George E. Marcus, eds., Writing
 Culture The Poetics and Politics of
 Ethnography, pp. 1-26, 122-93.
 John Higham, "The Future of American History," Journal of
 American History, 80 (1994), 1289-1309
- Apr. 1 The Novel as History
 *William Faulkner, Absalom, Absalom.
- Apr. 8 Past, Present, and Future
 *Herbert Butterfield, The Whig Interpretation of History.
 *Carr, What is History? ch. V.
 *P.D. James, The Children of Men, chs. 1-12
 Richard Hofstadter, The Progressive Historians, pp. 463-66.
- Apr. 15 History v. Heritage
 Sam Wineburg, Historical Thinking and Other Unnatural Acts,
 pp. 1-27.
 Pauline Maier, American Scripture: Making the Declaration
 of Independence, ix-xxi, 209-15. (handout)
 David Lowenthal, Possessed by the Past, ix-30.
 Nell Irvin Painter, Sojourner Truth: A Life, A Symbol, 258-
 87.
 Jacques Revel and Lynn Hunt, eds., Histories: French
 Constructions of the Past, 631-43.
 Bernard Bailyn, "Considering the Slave Trade: History and
 Memory," William and Mary Quarterly, LVIII (2001),
 245-51
- Apr. 22 The Fiction of History?
 *Simon Schama, Dead Certainties.
 Keith Jenkins, On "What is History?" pp. 1-63.
 John Demos, The Unredeemed Captive, preface, pp. 100-110. 5
 Keith Windshuttle, The Killing of History, chs. 1, 8.
 Stephen B. Oates, The Approaching Fury: Voices of the
 Storm, 1820-1861, read in.
- May 2 20-25 pp. paper due.

